

Message Text

SECRET

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 SSM-03 ACDA-07 MC-02

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R 270506Z JUL 76

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3408

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T BAGHDAD 1028

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IZ

SUBJ: FRUSTRATIONS OF IRAQI REGIME

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS GIVEN TO USINT BY AN APPARENTLY WELL CONNECTED SOURCE. SOURCE SAID HIS INFORMATION WAS BASED ON A CONVERSATION HE HAD ON EVENING OF JULY 25 WITH ZAID HAIDER, WHO HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN BAATHI NATIONAL LEADERSHIP.

2. IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI MET WITH VERY COOL RECEPTION ON HIS JULY 25 VISIT TO CAIRO. HAMMADI RETURNED TO BAGHDAD SAME EVENING WITHOUT RECEIVING A REPLY TO PRESIDENT BAKR'S MESSAGE TO SADAT WHICH PROPOSED CLOSER IRAQI-EGYPTIAN COOPERATION ON LEBANON. IRAQI-EGYPTIAN COOPERATION IN SUPPLYING ARMS TO PALESTINIANS IS NOW BEING PHASED OUT.

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3. IRAQIS ARE BEGINNING TO FEEL ISOLATED AGAIN AS "REJECTION FRONT" SEEMS TO HAVE LOST MOMENTUM. ALGERIANS HAVE AVOIDED ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT, LIBYANS ARE DISCREDITED AFTER THEIR SUDANESE FIASCO, AND PALESTINIANS ARE PREOCCUPIED WITH OTHER MATTERS.

4. IN BAGHDAD, SENIOR OFFICIALS ARE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED OVER POSSIBILITIES OF SABOTAGE AND ASSASSINATION. SECURITY IS BEING TIGHTENED, AND REGIME IS BECOMING MORE DEFENSIVE. SADDAM HUSSEIN HAS STOPPED TAKING WALKS THROUGH THE LESS POPULATED AREAS OF BAGHDAD.

5. REGIME HOPES TO REDUCE ITS ISOLATION AT COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE, BUT IS DISAPPOINTED OVER LACK OF STRONG SUPPORT FROM YUGOSLAVIA.

6. REGIME IS ALSO DISAPPOINTED OVER FAILURE OF SOVIET UNION TO SUPPLY IRAQ WITH MIG-25'S. REQUESTS MADE IN SPRING OF 1976 HAVE RECEIVED NO REPLIES.

WILEY

SECRET

NNN

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